GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3909
ANSWERED ON:19.04.2005
SPORTS AUTHORITY OF INDIA
Jogi Shri Ajit

Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the working of the Sports Authority of India be made more professional; and

(b) if so, the steps taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI SUNIL DUTT)

(a)&(b) The Sports Authority of India (SAI), an apex body for promotion, development and achieving excellence in sports at national/international level was set up by Government of India in 1984. SAI through its different sports promotional schemes, is spotting and nurturing the talented children in the sub-junior, junior & senior age groups for providing them with requisite infrastructure, sports equipment, coaching facilities with scientific backup, competition exposure, etc.

Constant efforts are being made by the Government to improve the functioning of SAI and make it a more professional body. In this regard the following major steps have been taken.

1. Creation of modern sports infrastructure supported by scientific back up for establishment of Regional Centres, Sub-Centres and Special Area Games Centres.

2. Providing new and additional infrastructural facility at the existing centres.

3. Supply of latest equipment for training of elite sportspersons and modern sports training to national campers.

4. Engagement of Foreign Coaches to supplement and support the training programmes, wherever required.

5. International Exposure to Indian coaches to upgrade their skills, methods and knowledge.

6. Establishment of Sports Science Faculties at various Regional Centres such as Gandhinagar, Kolkata, Bangalore and NS NIS Patiala and at SAI headquarters at New Delhi.

7. Encouragement to Research Activities and projects undertaken under the auspices of Human Performance Lab (HPL) located at Jawahar Lal Nehru Stadium, New Delhi.

8. Scheme of Dope Test with the objective to upgrade the Dope Control Centre of SAI, which is the only centre with dope testing facility in the country.

9. Initiative to create Computerised Sports Data Bank and creating a network of various centres of SAI.

10. Special efforts are being made to impart adequate training to improve our sportsperson`s performance in Commonwealth Games and Asian Games in 2006 and in Commonwealth Games, 2010.